

Message Text

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ACTION SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 VOE-00 MMO-04 FBOE-00 ABF-01

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P 172023Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9995

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 3030

FOR SCA, ARA/MGT, AND M/MO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, EFIN, XK, XL, XM, TD

SUBJ: PROJECTED CHANGES IN MONTHLY IV CASELOADS AND POSSIBLE
RESOURCE CHANGES DUE TO WESTERN HEMISPHERE BILL

REF: A. STATE 277567; B. PORT OF SPAIN 3023

1. EMBASSY GENERALLY CONCURS WITH DEPARTMENT'S ESTIMATE
CONTAINED REF A RE PROJECTED INCREASE IN IV WORKLOAD AND
RESULTING NEED FOR ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL AT THIS POST AS
RESULT OF SUBJECT LEGISLATION. HOWEVER, BECAUSE LOCAL
CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE TIME AND EFFORT IN
CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS ON POTENTIAL IMMIGRANTS, EMBASSY
BELIEVES THAT INCREASE OF TWO AMERICAN POSITIONS WILL BE
REQUIRED. IDEALLY, POSITIONS SHOULD BE STAFFED WITH AT
LEAST ONE FSO-5 OR 6 (OR EQUIVALENT FSS) WITH EXPERIENCE
IN IV WORK. PREFERABLE THAT SECOND POSITION ALSO BE
STAFFED WITH EXPERIENCED OFFICER BUT FIRST-TIME OFFICER
(FSO 7 OR 8) WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE.

2. LOCAL POSITIONS SHOULD INCLUDE 4 FSL-2 POSITIONS
(\$2900 PER POSITION). TWO TEMPORARY FSL-2 POSITIONS
REQUIRED ASAP TO ASSIST WITH "MAKE READY" TASKS. RE-
QUEST DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORIZATION TO HIRE THESE EMPLOYEES
FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER. EMBASSY WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT
THESE EMPLOYEES WILL THEN BECOME PERMANENT AS OF
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JANUARY 1.

3. AS INDICATED REF B, AMBASSADOR OPPOSES MOVING ANY PORTION OF MISSION OUT OF EMBASSY BECAUSE OF COST AND OBVIOUS UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS RESULTING FROM DECENTRALIZATION OF OPERATIONS. DESPITE SEVERE SPACE LIMITATIONS, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PROPOSED ADDITIONAL STAFF CAN BE ACCOMMODATED THROUGH MEASURES EXPLAINED REF B. HOWEVER, UNTIL PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED NEW CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZED, VISA WAITING ROOM WILL BE INADEQUATE FOR PROJECTED INCREASE IN APPLICANTS AND OVER-FLOW WILL HAVE TO BE ACCOMMODATED OUTSIDE OF BUILDING.

4. EMBASSY ESTIMATES COST OF MINOR CONSTRUCTION TO BE APPROXIMATELY \$8,000.

5. ESTIMATED COST OF ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS IS APPROXIMATELY \$6,500.

6. EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE, THAT ADDITIONAL ANCILLARY PERSONNEL WILL BE REQUIRED IN VIEW PLAN TO ABSORB INCREASE WITHIN EXISTING SPACE.

7. BECAUSE NEW LEGISLATION PROVIDES FOR POSSIBILITY ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS IN US, EMBASSY BELIEVES NIV CASELOAD WILL STEADILY INCREASE. FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE, HOWEVER, BELIEVE INCREASE CAN BE MANAGED WITH RESOURCES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE PROVIDED REQUESTED PERSONNEL FURNISHED FOR INCREASED IV WORKLOAD.
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